TO THE

OFFICERS OF THE

LATE WAR,

THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS HAD IN REFERENCE TO AN APPLICATION TO

CONGRESS,

For Lands, in remuneration for services, are respectfully submitted and recommended to their especial attention by the Committee, in the city of New York, duly appointed by a meeting of Officers, held on the 13th March, A. D. 1833.

NEW YORK.

PRINTED BY WILLIAM A. MERCEIN.

No. 240 Pearl Street.

1833.

E 359
.4
.T622

133385
109

GENERAL MEETING.

At an adjourned General Meeting of the Officers of the late war, held at the Shakspeare Hotel, in the city of New York; Gen. Robert Swartwout, late Quarter-master General in the chair, and Lieut. W. T. Willard, Secretary, it was *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to whom shall be re-committed the Memorial to Congress, with powers.—Whereupon, Gen. Robert Swartwout, Maj. N. Nye Hall, and Lieut. W. T. Willard, were appointed such committee.

It was further *Resolved*, That said committee prepare a circular to be transmitted to the late war officers, embracing said Memorial: with a request that they take the earliest and most efficient means to cause the Legislatures of the respective States, to pass approbatory resolutions in regard to the merits of the Memorial, and also urging upon the consideration of the Officers the propriety and necessity of sending a delegate or delegates from each State, from their own body, to meet at Washington at the opening of the next session of Congress, to enjoin upon that body the justice and expediency of their claims.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the committee as above appointed, on the 15th March, present all the members, the Memorial was carefully revised, and is now cheerfully recommended to our brethren, as combining all that can with propriety be said on the subject.

MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled.

The Memorial of the undersigned, Committee on behalf of the Officers of the Army of the United States, during the second war of independence, respectfully represent and sheweth :

That the Continental Congress, by its resolutions of the sixteenth of September, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, did provide, That the officers and soldiers of the war of independence should receive a bounty in land : That many of the States of the Union, viz : Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, following the generous impulse, and appreciating alike the services, sacrifices, and sufferings of the officers and soldiers, did, from time to time, provide liberal bounties in land, for their respective State lines in continental service. That Congress did, by a resolution of the fourteenth of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, promise a bounty in land to those who should leave the armies of his Britannic Majesty in America, and should choose to become members of any of those States : That by resolutions of the twenty-third of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and the seventh of April, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, Congress did provide, that refugees from Canada and Nova Soctia should receive bounty in land, and has, by various subsequent acts and regulations, carried into effect the said laws, so passed by its own body : That by an act of the twenty-fourth of December, one thousand eight hundred and eleven,

and the acts supplementary thereto, the same bounty and liberality was extended to the soldiers of the late war, in which the undersigned served: That by the second section of the act of the sixth of February, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, the heirs of volunteer soldiers who were killed in action, or died in actual service of the United States, during the late war, were each promised one hundred and sixty acres of land: That under the provisions of the act of the fifth of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, citizens of the United States, who were inhabitants of Canada at the commencement of the late war, and who, during the said war, joined the armies of the United States as volunteers, were promised bounty land in the following proportions, viz: To each colonel, nine hundred and sixty acres; to each major, eight hundred acres; to each captain, six hundred and forty acres; to each subaltern officer, four hundred and eighty acres; and to the medical and other staff, according to their pay; and they were authorized to locate their claims, in quarter sections, on any of the unappropriated lands of the United States.

The undersigned have in vain sought for reasons which should deprive the officers of the second war of independence of the same munificence which was extended by the United States, and by several of the States, to those of the first. They held the same stake, they exhibited the same valor and love of liberty, and although they may not, as a body, have suffered as much, yet their zeal was not less, nor their exertions less willing. If the soldiers of the late war, and the heirs of volunteers who were killed, or died, had claims on the bounty of the nation, why have not the officers whose skill and industry, by daily toil and sleepless nights, brought them into the field, and drilled them

into efficiency; or those who ministered to their wants, or watched over their health, claims equally strong?

If citizens who abandoned the enemy of their country, and arrayed themselves in her ranks, have met favor in your halls, will you be deaf to the appeal of those who sought the enemy on his own soil, foiled the discipline which conquered that first of warriors who sleeps on a distant rock? The undersigned presume to answer for your honorable body in the negative.

Again, the officers of the late war entered the service of their country under many appalling circumstances: they left their several employments, which were lucrative, to commence a new career—a life fraught with uncertainty and peril; in short, the life of a patriotic soldier. They knew no motive but their country's good, acknowledged no criterion but success, and with a stern devotion, followed up the example left by their forefathers, and to protect the sacred legacy that they had bequeathed—which had been won, and nobly won by men who fought in the days that tried men's souls.

The last war, was of a different character from the former: every voice from Georgia to Maine in our revolutionary struggle, resounded with the battle cry of Liberty or Death. In the war of 1812, it was pronounced an unrighteous an unholy war, even from the sacred desk, it was condemned by a large and powerful minority; it required and called into action, moral courage for a man to wear the livery of his country. The officers composing that army, were followed with contempt, until the battles of Bridgewater, Erie, and New-Orleans, showed to the nation that the same spirit that warmed the heroes of '76, had not departed from them,—and that they had left sons worthy of their fathers.

Another fact, relative to this subject; the payment

of the officers at the close of the war, were made in Treasury notes with a loss of in most instances, from 15 to 20 per cent.

The justice of their claim, and encouraged by the many precedents in their favor, and the further consideration that the laws did not allow them to share in the capture of munitions of war, and other valuable public stores, they appeal with confidence to your liberality, and to the gratitude of the nation at this auspicious period of their country's history, and pray that lands may be granted to those officers of the late war who served to its close, and to the heirs of those who were killed or died in service in proportions at least equal to the quantites allowed to the Canadian volunteers, and that they be permitted to locate their claims on any of the unappropriated lands of the United States, or to file their warrants in payment of any lands which have hitherto been purchased from the United States and now remain unpaid for.

And your memorialists further beg leave respectfully to suggest, that many of the officers of the late war were entitled to promotion long previous to the close of the war ; but, although in many cases they discharged duties in a higher grade than they received pay for, yet in consequence of the numerous vacancies not having been filled up by promotions, they left the army in many cases in the same grade in which they entered it, arising, in part, from a consolidation of the old peace establishment with the army of twenty-five thousand, raised in one thousand eight hundred and twelve, contrary to the expectations of the officers of that army.

And your memorialists conceive, that if the foregoing prayer be granted, it would not be unreasonable to ask a proportion of land for each officer according to the

grade he of right was entitled to, had the vacancies been filled up at the close of the late war.

As in duty bound, your memorialists will ever pray.

ROBT. SWARTWOUT,
N. NYE HALL.
W. T. WILLARD,
} *Committee in behalf of the Officers of the Late Army.*

March 15 1833.

CIRCULAR.

Your attention is called particularly to that part of the resolution, urging the passage of approbatory resolves by the various State Legislatures, and also the appointment of one of your own body from each state to meet at Washington city to prosecute the matter to a close. Upon these two points the committee are urgent as a last means of sure success. Congress are as willing as they are able to do us justice, when we shall present our claims in a proper form before them.

A favorable report with a bill accompanying was made to Congress in 1816, by Col. R. M. Johnson Chairman of committee, also another favourable report and resolution in 1826, by Col. D. P. Cook, Chairman of a select committee appointed for that purpose as follows:

"May 17, 1826, Mr. Cook, from the select committee to which was referred the petition of sundry officers of the army of the late war; made a report accompanied with the following resolution. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to make provisions by law for granting to each of the officers of the army, who served during the late war, a quantity of land according to their rank, as a remuneration for their sacrifices, sufferings and faithful services."

That it is expedient that the officers of the late war, whether in or out of service, co-operate with all their influence, in the object of the petitions presented to Congress in their behalf: and that it be recommended to them to hold meetings at their respective posts, or in their respective congressional districts, and to forward to the seat of government concurrent memorials, and letters to members of Congress, and to such distinguished officers as are residents or may be at the seat of goverment during the next session of Congress. Committees may be appointed to correspond with this Committee.

That the officers interested in the result of the claim, being *all those who served to the close of the late war, whether of the staff or line, or whether now in or out of the service*, be requested to pay into the hands of, or remit to the Treasurer of this association, such sum as they can appropriate towards defraying the expenses of printing, postages, and other necessary incidental charges.

The Secretary (who is also Treasurer) will promptly at all times give any information, requested relating to the doings of the association or the progress of our cause.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ROBT. SWARTWOUT,
N. NYE HALL,
W. T. WILLARD,
} *Committee of New York Association, Late War Officers.*

New York City,
March 15th, 1833.

Schedule of allowances of lands heretofore made by Congress and several of the States, to their troops.

Resolutions of the 14th and 27th Aug. 1776.

To a colonel,	1,000
a lieutenant colonel,	800
a major,	600
a captain,	400
a lieutenant,	300
an ensign,	200

Resolutions of the 16th Sept. 1776.

To a major general,	1,100
a brigadier general,	850
a director of hospital,	500
a colonel,	500
a chief physician and purveyor-general,	450
a lieutenant colonel,	450
a physician, surgeon, and apothecary,	400
a major,	400
a reg. sur. ass. to purv. and apothecary,	300
a captain,	300
a hospital reg. surgeon's mate,	200
a lieutenant,	200
an ensign,	150

Massachusetts.

Quantities not ascertained with precision.

New York.

To a major general,	5,500
a brigadier general,	4,250
a colonel,	2,500
a lieutenant colonel,	2,350

a major,	2,000
a captain or regimental surgeon,	1,500
every subaltern and surgeon's mate,	1,000

Pennsylvania.

To a major general,	2,000
a brigadier general,	1,500
a colonel,	1,000
a lieutenant colonel,	750
surgeons, majors, and chaplains, each	600
a captain,	500
a lieutenant,	300

Maryland.

Alike to officers of all grades,	200

Virginia.

To a major general,	15,000
a brigadier general,	10,000
a colonel,	5,000
a lieutenant colonel,	4,500
a major,	4,000
a captain,	3,000
a subaltern,	2,000

By an act of October, 1778, *one third* was added to those quantities, and by another act *one sixth more.*

North-Carolina.

To a brigadier general	12,000
a colonel, lieut. col. com't. or chaplain,	7,200
a lieutenant colonel,	5,760
a major or surgeon,	4,800
a captain,	3,840
a surgeon's mate,	2,560
a subaltern,	2,500

559
.4
T622

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

00010198689